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USD HISTORY CLASS EXPLORES PREHISTORIC SITES

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

San Diego, California

What ancient civilization was first to inhabit California? Theories surrounding this question will be explored by students of the history class "Prehistoric Site Methods" to be offered this summer by the University of San Diego.

According to Professor of History James R. Moriarity, the class will be working in archeological sites at Buchanan Canyon and Texas Street. "Our purpose will be to uncover artifacts and other evidence of human occupation at these sites. If enough evidence is found to prove that these are sites of human occupation, they may provide knowledge concerning the antiquity of man in California," Moriarity explained.

Texas Street, San Diego, has been one of the most controversial sites in North American archeology, since the discover in the early 1950's of stone tools theoretically used by early man. It was argued that the stone tools were too crude to have been made by man. However, within the past year, investigations taking place in Buchanan Canyon, one mile from Texas Street, have recovered distinctly similar stone artifacts which are unquestionably of human manufacture.

In conducting the history class Professor Moriarity will resume his own extensive history of research into San Diego's prehistoric and historic past. A widely-known lecturer and teacher, Moriarity is one of the foremost authorities on archeology in Southern California. He is author of over one hundred scientific articles and has written two books on California history.

History 108/208 will begin at 8:00 a.m. June 25 and continue through August 3, for a total of 3 University credit hours. Further information about the course is available through the Director of Summer Sessions at USD.

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